

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CU-04 AID-20 USIA-12 NSC-10

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1827

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SAIGON 8771

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: YOUTH PARA

REF: STATE 70302

1. YOUTH CATEGORIES.

A. RELATIVE AMOUNT OF EFFORT (BY PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL EFFORT)

TO BE PUT IN DIFFERENT YOUTH CATEGORIES:

PERCENTAGE	CATEGORY
15	YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS.
20	YOUNG MILITARY OFFICERS.
18	YOUNG BUREAUCRATS.
5	YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IN THE MEDIA FIELD.
2	YOUNG MEMBERS OF RELIGIOUS GROUPS.
5	YOUNG LAWYERS.
5	YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY.
2	YOUNG PROFESSIONAL IN THE MEDICA FIELD.
5	YOUNG EDUCATORS (FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION).
5	YOUNG LABOR LEADERS.
3	LEADERS OF NATIONAL YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS.
5	UNIVERSITY STUDENT LEADERS.
5	SELECTED UNIVERSITIES AND INSTITUTES OF PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE (UNIVERSITIES OF SAIGON, HUE, CAN THO, VAN HANH BUDDHIST

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UNIVERSITY, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADMINIS-
TRATION, MINH DUC).

5 YOUNG LEADERS AMONG NON- COMMUNIST,
NATIONALIST OPPOSITIONIST ORGANIZATIONS.

B. RATIONALE: THE GREATEST SINGLE WEIGHT HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE " YOUNG MILITARY OFFICER" CATEGORY BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE MILITARY IN CONTEMPORARY VIETNAMESE POLITICS AND ADMINISTRATION. ASIDE FROM THOSE ENGAGED IN STRICTLY MILITARY DUTIES, THERE ARE MANY YOUNG OFFICERS ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITIES IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (AT PROVINCE AND DISTRICT LEVEL, FOR EXAMPLE). A NUMBER OF TALENTED YOUNG OFFICERS WITH CONSIDERABLE LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO POSITIONS IN VARIOUS GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES AND AGENCIES. WE HAVE GIVEN A CLOSE- SECOND RANKING TO THE " YOUNG BUREAUCRAT" CATEGORY. AN INCREASING NUMBER OF YOUNG BUREAUCRATS, OFTEN THOSE WITH TECHNICAL EXPERTISE GAINED AT HOME OR ABROAD, HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT POSITIONS. IN A PEACETIME ENVIRONMENT, IT IS LIKELY THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS GROUP WILL INCREASE BECAUSE OF THE GROWING REQUIREMENTS OF NATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WHILE THAT OF THE YOUNG MILITARY OFFICER GROUP MAY DIMINISH SOMEWHAT, ESPECIALLY IF MANY YOUNGER OFFICERS ARE DEMOBILIZED AND FIND THEIR WAY INTO OTHER YOUTH CATEGORIES.

BECAUSE OF THE FRAGMENTED NATURE OF VIETNAMESE NATIONALIST POLITICS AND SPECIAL FACTORS SUCH AS THE MILITARY DRAFT, " YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS" ARE RANKED THIRD AS A GROUP. OFTEN, YOUNGER POLITICAL LEADERS -- UNIVERSITY STUDENTS, FOR EXAMPLE -- ENTER THE MILITARY OR THE CIVIL SERVICE AND TAKE ON GREATER IMPORTANCE TO THE MISSION AS MEMBERS OF THESE GROUPS. HOWEVER, YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS COMPOSE A SIGNIFICANT GROUP AND ONE THAT IS GROWING IN IMPORTANCE. WE HAVE ACCORDED LESSER RANKINGS TO A NUMBER OF OTHER CATEGORIES WHICH WE CONSIDER TO BE OF INTEREST TO THE MISSION BUT NOT OF THE RANK OF THE FIRST THREE CATEGORIES.

C. SHORT- TERM YOUTH IMPACT: IT IS NOT ANTICIPATED THAT ANY OF THE ABOVE- MENTIONED GROUPS WILL HAVE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON US INTERESTS IN THE NEXT TWO TO FOUR YEARS.

2. OBJECTIVES.

A. WHAT YOUTH OBJECTIVES SHOULD THE MISSION PURSUE?

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PERCENTAGE WEIGHTS HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE OBJECTIVES
SELECTED:

PERCENTAGE	CATEGORY
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20	ASSURE ACCESS TO FUTURE LEADERSHIP BY DEVELOPING RELATIONSHIPS WITH LEADERS OF POLITICALLY AWARE YOUTH AND POTENTIAL FUTURE LEADERS.
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- 15 CREATE AND MAINTAIN FAVORABLE ATTITUDES
TOWARD THE US.
- 15 PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF BROAD US GOALS AND
POLICIES.
- 10 INFLUENCE ATTITUDES ON SPECIFIC US INTERESTS.
- 8 HELP STRENGTHEN MODERATE, DEMOCRATIC GROUPS
AND INDIVIDUALS.
- 7 FOSTER A CLIMATE CONDUCTIVE TO ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.
- 10 ENCOURAGE COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRATIC
PROCESSES IN DEVELOPMENT AND REFORM.
- 7 ENCOURAGE PRAGMATIC, NON- IDEOLOGICAL
APPROACHES TO NATIONAL PROBLEMS.
- 8 THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH CONTACTS,
UNDERSTAND AND FOLLOW INCIPIENT POLITICAL
AND SOCIAL TRENDS IN THE SOCIETY.

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B. RATIONALE: THE OBJECTIVES SELECTED FALL INTO TWO GENERAL CATEGORIES. THE GROUP WE HAVE WEIGHED MOST HEAVILY INCLUDES THOSE CATEGORIES HAVING THE MOST DIRECT RELATIONSHIP TO NEAR- AND MID- TERM US POLICY INTERESTS. THEY INCLUDE FACILITATING ACCESS TO YOUTH MOVING INTO LEADERSHIP POSITIONS, DEVELOPING UNDERSTANDING OF GENERAL AND SPECIFIC US POLICIES AND INTERESTS, AND USING YOUTH CONTACTS TO ENHANCE MISSION KNOWLEDGE OF DEVELOPMENTS IN VIET- NAM OF CONCERN TO US POLICY- MAKING AND POLICYIMPLEMENTATION. THE SECOND GROUP CONSISTS OF CATEGORIES WHICH WE VIEW AS AFFECTING LONGER TERM BUT EQUALLY IMPORTANT US INTERESTS BY USING THE YOUTH PROGRAM TO ENCOURAGE THE DEVELOPMENT OF DWDEMOCRATIC, STABLE VIET- NAM.

3. RESOURCES: LIST OF YOUTH PROGRAM RESOURCES WEIGHTED BY
RELATIVE EFFECTIVENESS:

PERCENTAGE	RESOURCE
7	CU INTERNATIONAL VISITOR PROGRAM AND INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GRANT PROGRAM.
3	CU EDUCATIONAL TRAVEL GRANTS.
8	CU FULL- YEAR ACADEMIC GRANTS TO VIETNAMESE STUDENTS.
2	CU FULL- YEAR ACADEMIC GRANTS TO AMERICAN TEACHERS.
2	TEENAGE EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.
3	CU SHORT- TERM AMERICAN GRANTEEES.
35	AID TRAINING PROGRAMS.
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12	MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAMS IN THE US.
3	DOD ORIENTATION TOURS IN THE US FOR VIETNAMESE MILITARY OFFICERS.
10	USIA CULTURAL AND INFORMATIONAL PRO- GRAMMING (OTHER THAN EXCHANGES).
15	REPRESENTATIONAL AND CONTACT ACTIVITIES OF STATE, USIA, AID, AND DOD OFFICERS.

A. IMPROVEMENTS: NO ADDITIONAL COMMENTS.

B. PRIVATE RESOURCES: IN VIET- NAM THE ASIA FOUNDATION IS
THE BEST EXAMPLE OF PRIVATE RESOURCES HELPING TO PROMOTE OUR
OBJECTIVES. THE FOUNDATION DEVOTES THE GRATER PART OF ITS
RESOURCES IN VIET- NAM TO YOUTH- ORIENTED ACTIVITIES SUCH AS
HIGHER EDUCATION PROJECTS, PARTICIPANT TRAINING, AND THE
SPONSORING OF CONFERENCES RELATED TO YOUTH AFFAIRS. WITH
RELATIVELY MODEST RESOURCES AT ITS DISPOSAL, THE FOUNDATION
HAS CONCENTRATED ITS ENERGIES ON A SMALL NUMBER OF CAREFULLY
SELECTED PROJECTS WITH GENERALLY REWARDING RESULTS.

C. PEACE CORPS: NOT APPLICABLE TO VIET- NAM.

4. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH:

A. RELATIVE IMPORTANCE: LOW.

B. EXPLANATION: THE SCOPE OF AMERICA' S INVOLVEMENT IN
VIET- NAM WITH THE CONCOMITANT NECESSITY OF DEALING WITH PRESSING
MILITARY, POLITICAL, AND ECONOMIC PROBLEMS AND NOW, IN THE POST-
CEASEFIRE PERIOD, WITH THE RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE
COUNTRY IS THE EXPLANATION FOR OUR " LOW" RATING OF THE RELATIVE
IMPORTANCE OF YOUTH. NEVERTHELESS, MEASURED IN ABSOLUTE TERMS
THE SHARE OF THE MISSION' S RESOURCES DEVOTED TO YOUTH PROGRAMS
HAS BEEN AND CONTINUES TO BE CONSIDERABLE FOR A COUNTRY THE
SIZE OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM.

C. ESTIMATE OF USG RESOURCES EARMARKED FOR YOUTH PROGRAMS:

1) PERSONNEL TIME:

A) PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL PERSONNEL TIME OF CONCERNED
AGENCIES; THREE PERCENT; APPROXIMATELY 168 MAN- MONTHS
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PER YEAR.

B) ALLOCATION OF PERSONNEL EFFORT TO FUNCTIONS:

CONTACT WORK: 65 PERCENT

REPORTING: 10 PERCENT

SEMINARS, ETC.: 25 PERCENT

C) DIVISION AMONG CONCERNED AGENCIES OF PERSONNEL

TIME DEVOTED TO THE YOUTH EFFORT:

STATE: 7 PERCENT

USIA: 18 PERCENT

AID: YT PERCENT

DOD: 10 PERCENT

2) PROGRAM RESOURCES: PERCENTAGE OF CURRENTLY AVAILABLE
RESOURCES TO BE APPLIED TO YOUTH AND POTENTIAL LEADERSHIP,
PURPOSES:

CU BUDGET: 75 PERCENT

USIA: 5 PERCENT

AID: 5-10 PERCENT

MASF: 8-10 PERCENT

(NOTE: THE MASF FIGURE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGES BASED
ON FLUCTUATIONS IN THE MATERIEL PORTION OF THE
MASF)

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